

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 2 as follows:

-- In a reading controller 106, a reading unit 107 optically reads an original document with a CIS image sensor (contact image sensor), then an image signal, converted as electric image data, is subjected to various image processings such as binarization and halftone processing via an image processing controller (not shown) of the reading controller 106, and high-precision image data is outputted. It should be noted that in the present embodiment, the reading controller 106 and the reading unit 107 are available for sheet reading control for reading with a fixed CIS image sensor while conveying an original, and also are available for book reading control for scanning an original fixed on a platen with a moving CIS image sensor. The image sensor in the reading unit 107 may be CCD image sensor. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 16 as follows:

--An operation display unit 108 has an operation unit with various keys, such as numeral value input keys, character input keys, single-touch telephone number keys, a mode setting key, a determination key, cancellation key and the like, for determination of image-transmission destination data and registration of preset data, an LED (light emitting diode) and an LCD (liquid crystal display) and the like. The operator's various input operations, the display of operation status of the information processing apparatus 100, and the like are made at the operation display unit 108. Further, when a warning is given ~~made~~ to the operator, the LED flashes and warning information is displayed in the LCD. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 8, line 25 as follows:

-- A printing controller 112 performs various image processings, such as smoothing processing, printing-density correction processing and color correction, on image data to be print-outputted, via an image processing controller (not shown), thereby converting ~~converts~~ the image data to high-precision image data and outputs the data to the printing unit 113 (to be described in detail later). --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 9, line 16 as follows:

--A USB device controller 114, including a USB analog transceiver and a serial interface engine, performs communication control on a USB interface. The USB device controller 114 performs protocol control in accordance with USB communication standards, converts data from a USB device control task executed by the CPU 101 into a packet and performs USB packet transmission to an external USB host unit (not shown) connected to the apparatus 100, and on the other hand, converts a USB packet from an external USB host unit (not shown) connected to the apparatus 100 into data and transmits the data to the CPU 101. In this manner, the USB device controller 114 realizes communication between the information processing apparatus 100 and an external USB host unit. The USB communication standards allow high-speed bidirectional data communication by 1 host (master) connected with plural devices (slaves). The USB device controller 114 has a device function in USB communication. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 11, line 27 as follows:

--A general-purpose driver area 212 in the nonvolatile area 201 is a program area where a control program for the CPU 101 to control an external device connected to the USB A connector 117 of the information processing apparatus 100 in a general-purpose manner is stored. The control program to control the external device in a general-purpose manner ~~means~~ is a control program to control an external device to realize communication in accordance with control standards standardized by a standardization organization, or de facto standard control standards. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 12, line 21 as follows:

--Next, the volatile area 202 will be described in detail. An image data area 214 in the volatile area 202 is an area where image data handled in the information processing apparatus 100, print data transmitted to the printing unit 113 of the information processing apparatus 100, status information obtained from the printing unit 113, and the like, are stored. As shown in FIG. 2, since the image data area 214 is dynamically ensured upon storage of image data or the like, plural image data areas 214 may exist separately. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 13, line 4 as follows:

--A device-specific driver area 215 in the volatile area 202 is a device-specific driver area holding a device-specific driver for the CPU 101 of the information processing apparatus 100 to control an external device connected to the USB A connector 117 of the information processing apparatus 100, i.e., a digital still camera, in an expanded manner. The device-specific driver

~~means~~ is a driver unique to the external device such as a digital still camera, made by its maker's own method. The device-specific driver cannot be utilized in a general-purpose manner in digital still cameras of other makers. The device-specific driver corresponds to only the maker-specific or the device-specific function (for example, a function of enabling selection of printing mode unique to the maker and enable printing in the unique printing mode). Regarding general-purpose functions (e.g., downloading and print-outputting an image obtained by image sensing by the information processing apparatus 100), the device-specific driver may be used with a general-purpose driver. Further, it may be arranged such that all the functions provided from a digital still camera including the general-purpose functions are realized only by the device-specific driver. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 14, line 16 as follows:

--FIG. 3 is a flowchart showing an example of processing in a case where a digital still camera is connected to the information processing apparatus 100 and image data in the digital camera is print-outputted. Note that a description will be ~~made~~ provided on the assumption that the entire information processing apparatus 100 has been initialized by the CPU 101 prior to execution of the present flowchart and the information processing apparatus 100 is in a standby status waiting for operation start. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 16, line 14 as follows:

--At step S303, the CPU 101 determines from the information obtained at step S302 whether or not the digital still camera connected to the USB A connector 117 has a

device-specific driver to control the digital still camera. The determination as to whether or not the connected camera has a device-specific driver is made as follows. A table of names of the makers of digital still cameras having device-specific drivers and the product names is registered in a data table area 213 of the ROM 102 in the information processing apparatus 100 in advance. The CPU 101 compares the maker name and the product name obtained at step S302 with the data registered in the data table area 213 of the ROM 102, thereby determining ~~determines~~ whether or not the digital still camera connected to the USB A connector 117 has a device-specific driver --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 17, line 26 as follows:

--A digital still camera having a device-specific driver can operate in ~~has~~ a general-purpose device-specific driver transmission mode for transmission of device-specific driver. The CPU 101 controls the USB host controller 115 to set the connected digital still camera in the device-specific driver transmission mode by the device-specific communication procedure. Then, the CPU 101 receives the device-specific driver from the connected digital still camera by the device-specific communication procedure. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 20, line 16 as follows:

--At step S307, the CPU 101 changes control of the digital still camera connected to the USB A connector 117, which was performed in accordance with a general-purpose driver control program, to control a general-purpose digital still camera, stored in the general-purpose driver area 212 of the ROM 102, which was also ~~to control~~ performed in accordance with a control

program of the device-specific driver stored at step S306 in the device-specific driver area 215 of the image memory 104. Thereafter, the process flow proceeds to step S308. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 21, line 9 as follows:

--At step S309, the CPU 101 processes the image data obtained from the digital still camera at step S308, outputs print data to the print controller 112, thereby performing ~~performs~~ the printing processing. The image data processing performed by the CPU 101 includes the following processing. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 21, line 15 as follows:

--First, as the image data received from the digital still camera is compressed by the JPEG method, the CPU 101 controls the coding/decoding processor 111 thereby decoding ~~decodes~~ the JPEG-compressed file format data to raw data. Then the CPU 101 performs image processing such as color space processing on the raw image data in correspondence with the printing unit 113. Then the CPU 101 transfers the image-processed raw image data to the print controller 112. As a result, the image data is print-outputted to a printing medium in the printing unit 113. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 22, line 8 as follows:

--If the information processing apparatus has such data table memory, it can obtain the latest information on the maker name, the product name and the like of a digital still camera having a device-specific driver via the communication line 131, and update the data table using the obtained information. In this arrangement, even if a new digital still camera having a latest

function has been put on sale, a device-specific driver to realize the latest function can be obtained on the information processing apparatus 100 side. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 22, line 19 as follows:

--Next, a description will be provided ~~made~~ in detail about a control flow in a case where a list of drivers stored in the general-purpose driver area 212 and the device-specific driver area 215 of the information processing apparatus 100 is displayed on the operation display unit 108, and a selectively-designated device-specific driver stored in the device-specific driver 215 is deleted. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 22, line 27 as follows:

--FIG. 4 is a flowchart showing in detail a control flow in a case where a list of drivers stored in the general-purpose driver area 212 and the device-specific driver area 215 of the information processing apparatus 100 is displayed on the operation display unit 108, and a selectively-designated device-specific driver stored in the device-specific driver 215 is deleted. Note that a description will be provided ~~made~~ on the assumption that the entire information processing apparatus 100 has been initialized by the CPU 101 prior to execution of the present flowchart and the information processing apparatus 100 is in a standby status waiting for operation start. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 23, line 13 as follows:

--At step S401, the CPU 101 monitors the operation display unit 108, and determines whether or not an operation to display the list of drivers stored in the general-purpose driver area 212 and the device-specific driver area 215 has been performed by the operator. The operation to display the list of drivers by the operator may be made by using a specialized driver list display button (not shown) as a single-touch operation, and otherwise, the operation may be made by tracking a hierarchy from a menu button (not shown). --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 24, line 11 as follows:

--At step S403, the CPU 101 controls the operation display unit 108, thereby displaying ~~displays~~ the general-purpose driver information obtained at step S402 on the display unit such as a LCD of the operation display unit 108. Thereafter, the process flow proceeds to step S404. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 24, line 24 as follows:

--At step S405, the CPU 101 controls the operation display unit 108 thereby displaying ~~displays~~ the device-specific driver information obtained at step S404 on the display unit such as LCD of the operation display unit 108. Thereafter, the process flow proceeds to step S406. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 25, line 2 as follows:

--At step S406, the CPU 101 monitors the operation display unit 108, and determines whether or not an operation to delete a device-specific driver displayed on the display unit such as LCD of the operation display unit 108 has been performed by the operator. The operation to delete a device-specific driver by the operator may be made by using a specialized device-specific driver deletion button (not shown) as a single-touch operation, and otherwise, the operation may be made by tracking a hierarchy from a menu button (not shown). --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 28, line 7 as follows:

--Further, as the information processing apparatus 100 has means for giving a warning to the operator in a case where there is no area to dynamically store a device-specific driver in the image memory 104, the operation status can be notified to the operator, thereby permitting the operator side ~~can~~ to take a countermeasure. This also provides more reliable operations. --